

Iron County Register

By Ell D. Ake.
IRONTON, MISSOURI

Now is the time to begin the safe and sane Christmas shopping.

In changing cabinets Spain is merely swapping horses in midstream.

Aviators will soon utilize and ride high winds instead of fighting shy of them.

Lightning has been hitting Texas oil tanks, thereby becoming greased lightning.

Diaries for 1910 are out. This fact has a bearing on the Christmas shopping question.

Alaska is said to be a future dairy-land. It should produce high-grade ice cream.

How does lovely woman find the time to work ten hours a day and do up all her hair?

Railroad reports show that old General Prosperity is making use of his return-trip ticket.

Unless football is made a less dangerous game it will be placed on the list of prohibited sports.

Kaiser Wilhelm says he never will fly. Just wait until the new aerial safeties are out and we shall see.

For the information of the uninitiated we would state that pellagra, the new corn disease, is not a near relative of the pin-jams nor "dillious triangles."

A Chicago woman is suing for a divorce because her husband thinks that 25 cents a day is enough to live on. What extravagant notions some women have!

A worthy government official says that fishermen are as great an asset as the farmers. Show this to your wife the next time you are invited on a fishing excursion.

For a few moments of sport West Point has sacrificed a cadet on the gridiron. The country has lost a stalwart defender and parents a beloved son. Is the game worth the candle?

An alleged expert on the subject of theft, being under arrest for his practice, asserts that it "is a disease." Even so, the traditional practice of isolation looks like the best method of controlling it.

It is the era of short skirts for ladies in street attire. Of course Paris not only sets the fashions but follows them, and in Paris streets the short skirt is in full swing. And the short skirt necessarily implies care in footwear. And so it comes that short skirts are becoming American shoes. The Parisian lady wants the best that is going, and she finds it in the American shoe.

The only pleasant feature of the hookworm disease is the ease with which the cause can be expelled from the human system. If what is said about it is true, one of the wonders of the twentieth century will be the story of this disease. It has only lately been discovered; only within the last year or two has it been discovered that a considerable proportion of the recruits to the military services have it—and at once a plan is made to spend \$1,000,000 in wiping it out.

The real forestry problem of the United States is in the hands of the states and individual citizens. Only a small fraction of the forest area of the country is in national forests and if America is to be saved from the fate of desolation, which has overtaken every sparsely settled nation in the world's history, scientific forestry must be made the everyday practice of the people, and it must be recognized in the fundamental law of the states.

Not only are beef and pork growing scarce, with prices high, but now comes word that there is a shortage in the poultry supply. One explanation is that farmers and ranch owners in the west have found it more profitable to give up their acres to wheat growing at prevailing rates than to raise cattle and chickens. But at the fancy figures prevailing or promised there should be "money in fowls." Present conditions tend to encourage vegetarianism.

It is evident that the immigration laws of the United States have something to commend them to other countries. The Mexican minister to Cuba is now here studying the workings of the system at New York with a view to devising laws for his own nation and for similar purposes. Many believe our restrictions are not sufficiently severe and that until aliens creep in through our immigrant stations. But there must be merit in the plan in operation here when other countries seek to copy our laws.

Mount Vesuvius is having an eruption regarded as the most serious since the violent one of 1906. Simultaneously there have been heavy earthquakes in Sicily, more particularly on the slope of Mount Etna, another noted volcano. The result was the destruction of considerable property and the killing of at least one person. Seismographs at Washington and elsewhere have recorded disturbances lately, and quite possibly another period of disturbances, manifested by these outward actions, is going on within the earth.

A University of Chicago professor thinks we should have three more R's added to the school curriculum, but they do not have to do with the 'rah-rah' business.

A New England university has suspended students guilty of violating a pledge to refrain from hazing. Evidently, the practice has such a strong hold on the student mind that even its sense of honor is blunted. It is time for strong measures to stamp it out when it begins to have this demoralizing effect.

NICARAGUAN CHARGE GIVEN HIS PASSPORT

ZELAYAN ADMINISTRATION IS SCATHINGLY DENOUNCED BY SECY. KNOX IN LETTER.

STATE OF WAR NEAR AT HAND

President Branded Violator of Pledge, Disturber and Rule Blot on Good Government—United States Convinced Revolutionists Represent Sentiments of Majority of Nicaraguan People.

Washington, D. C.—The passport of Felipe Rodriguez, charge d'affaires of the Nicaraguan legation, was handed to him by Secretary of State Knox, and with it came a letter scathingly denouncing President Zelaya and his administration. It is the most plain-spoken document that has come from the state department in years. It represents the views of President Taft.

Mr. Knox announces this government will not throw the burden of reparation for Zelaya's acts on the Nicaraguan people, but will seek out those responsible for the execution of Greece and Carmona and the violations of the Washington peace conventions.

With the apparent object of making them suffer personally. This is a new thing in American diplomatic procedure. While frequently this government has insisted on the punishment of minor officials and subjects or citizens of a foreign nation responsible for outrages on American citizens, it has not gone to the extreme of compelling the infliction of personal punishment on the head of a constitutional government. No doubt is felt here that Mr. Knox's virtual treat of reprisals against individuals was aimed directly at President Zelaya.

It is, of course, too early to predict what the nature of the punishment will be the government evidently intends to inflict on Zelaya.

Branded as Violator.

Zelaya is branded as a violator of solemn international conventions, a disturber of the national and international peace, a tyrant whose administration has been a blot upon the name of good government.

Secretary Knox virtually announces the recognition of the Nicaraguan revolutionists; declares it to be the conviction of the United States that the revolution represents the sentiments of a majority of the Nicaraguan people and that there is evidently no responsible government with which the United States can deal.

He, therefore, announces that all parties will be held accountable for their actions as affecting the interests of Americans and the peace of Central America. He further informs Senator Rodriguez that, while he has lost his diplomatic quality, he may still serve as an "unofficial channel of communication" with the faction which he is regarded as representing.

Near Status of War.

This brings the crisis as near to the status of war as it could be brought by executive action without a definite declaration by both houses of congress, which will convene next Monday. Mr. Knox's letter in all but so many words makes it plain that the action represents the wish and attitude of all the Central American states, with the single exception of Honduras, which is regarded here as entirely dominated by Zelaya.

Mexico has all along shown its sympathy with the United States in this matter.

Just what status the consular representatives of the United States in Nicaragua enjoy is not definitely explained. It is expected, however, that Vice Consul Caldera, who has been occupying the legation in Managua, together with the other consuls in that country, will be given their pass ports.

This is the usual method of procedure in cases of such action between governments.

Zelaya Sought Power.

Just what Secretary Knox meant in his letter to Senator Rodriguez by the reference to the Washington agreement of two years ago is disclosed by reference to that convention.

Through the efforts of Mr. Root, then secretary of state, representatives of all the Central American republics at the moment on the point of a general warfare, even then owing it was alleged largely to the over-weening ambitions of President Zelaya to become the dictator of

Laffan's Successor Announced.

New York City.—Edward P. Mitchell for many years on the editorial staff of the New York Sun, has been elected president of the Sun Printing and Publishing association, succeeding the late William M. Laffan.

Chicago Charity Fund \$90,000.

Chicago.—At a benefit performance given by the Associated Theater Managers \$6745 was raised for the unfortunate families of the Cherry mine victims. This swells the Cherry relief fund to about \$80,000.

May Get Wabash Road.

New York City.—One of the reports that received some attention in the financial district is to the effect that the Gould control of the Wabash is to be taken over at an early date by a syndicate of New York banks.

\$100,000 Fire in Grain Elevators.

Chicago.—Damage estimated at upwards of \$100,000 was done by a fire which for a time threatened to destroy the \$2,000,000 plant of the Northwestern Mill and Grain company at Cragu, Ill., a suburb.

Central America, were brought to this capital and induced to enter into a solemn compact to refrain from exploitation of the territories of one another and to observe the rules of civilized intercourse. Especially were they pledged to submit to arbitration instead of putting to the test of warfare any differences that might arise between them. The integrity of Honduras was guaranteed.

Neutrality Laws Violated.

Now Secretary Knox practically charges that each and every one of these stipulations were violated by President Zelaya. He has dominated Honduras, whose president is declared to be only his mouth piece, and Zelaya has not hesitated to violate the laws of neutrality by sending his troops, without passport or permission, into Salvador and Costa Rica. That he would have done the same in the case of Guatemala had the revolution extended to the northern frontier of Nicaragua there is no doubt.

It was well understood though never reduced to the form of a treaty, that not only the United States, but Mexico, would undertake to see that the provisions of this treaty were effective, though purely moral sanction was supposed to be the main reliance to accomplish its purpose. This has utterly failed, after a trial of nearly two years. Reports to the department of state from its diplomatic and consular agents have shown that during that period, President Zelaya has been stirring up discontent in the neighboring Central American republics, giving substantial aid to would-be revolutionists and doing everything possible to bring about a state of affairs, that would warrant him in invading the territory of his neighbors.

Rule of Barbarism.

But the internal conditions in Nicaragua revealed by these reports have never been told to the public because the moral turpitude involved is almost beyond belief. While these reports are still withheld from publication, officials of the department of state have disclosed enough of their contents to show that a condition of absolute barbarism has existed in Nicaragua with such accompaniments as rapine, murder, extortion and barbarous treatment of political prisoners, as has been unknown since the period of medieval Europe.

As Secretary Knox said in his letter, the other Central American republics have protested in vain against the existence of the conditions in Nicaragua, but the state department has felt loathe to violate its old traditions of noninterference in the internal affairs of other nations, and probably would have refrained even now had not Zelaya gone to the length of torturing and killing two Americans engaged in honorable warfare.

Only Law Is Zelaya.

In answer to the department's demand for an explanation, his agents simply stated that the executions were in accordance with the law of Nicaragua, but the state department finds that that law is Zelaya, and that the action was in violation of all the rules of civilized warfare. Reasoning that there is no actual government in Nicaragua, the department necessarily arrived at the conclusion that Zelaya is nothing more nor less than an international brigand and must be so treated. He must be held responsible for the killing of these two Americans, as if he were a private individual, and it is probable that he will be captured in Nicaragua or reclaimed from any country to which he attempts to escape. If an extradition treaty can be invoked, and tried as a common malefactor.

It is believed that President Diaz was the deciding force in this matter, and that it was on account of a straightforward and energetic declaration by him of the guilt of Zelaya and the necessity for intervention that was received in Washington within the last twenty-four hours that the state department reached its decision.

Not to Burden People.

In the ordinary course this government would content itself with the payment of a heavy monetary indemnity to the families of the victims of Zelaya's edict. But Secretary Knox clearly indicates in his letter, it is not the purpose of the American government thus to tax the great majority of the Nicaraguan people who do not sympathize with this action.

The status may be summed up as follows: Diplomatic relations between the United States and Nicaragua have been terminated. Dr. Hozar, the minister designate from Nicaragua, will not be received at the state department. Senator Rodriguez, the charge of the Nicaraguan legation, has been given his passports, and so has no official standing here.

On the receipt of the letter of Mr. Knox through a state department messenger, Senator Rodriguez notified his government by cable. He is awaiting a reply and will remain here a few days.

President Taft attended a church bazaar Wednesday evening and managed to dodge the secret service men.

Wife Farewell at Pen Gate.

Jefferson City, Missouri.—Accompanied to the gate of the state penitentiary by his wife, who kissed him good-by and left weeping, Dr. W. H. Shull of Henry county, under conviction of arson and sentenced to two years, entered upon his sentence.

De Armond Election February 1.

Jefferson City, Missouri.—Governor Hadley has changed the date of the election to choose a successor to Congressman De Armond from January 25 to February 1.

E. P. Mitchell Succeeds Laffan.

New York City.—Edward P. Mitchell, for many years on the editorial staff of the New York Sun, has been elected president of the Sun Printing and Publishing association, succeeding the late William M. Laffan.

Earthquake Destroys Villages.

Constantinople, Turkey.—According to an official dispatch received here from Bitlis, Asiatic Turkey, several small villages in that vicinity have been destroyed by an earthquake. No lives are reported to have been lost.

SOLONS OF NATION BEGIN THEIR WORK

Sixty-First Congress Meets in Regular Session.

BRILLIANT THROG PRESENT

House Greets Speaker Cannon with Great Applause—Many "Taft Policy" Bills Introduced in Both Chambers.

BY EDWARD B. CLARK.

Washington, Dec. 6.—At noon today Vice President Sherman in the Senate and Speaker Joseph G. Cannon in the House called to order the Sixty-first congress of the United States for its first regular session. Really the first session of this congress was the extraordinary one of last spring called to revise the tariff.

Some interest was lacking in the proceedings of the first day in the capitol because at the beginning of the extraordinary session in March last the speaker of the House was elected. Moreover, before the extraordinary session was ended, Speaker Cannon appointed all the committees which are to take legislation under consideration for the next two winters. The appointment of the committees ended the campaign on the part of the members for choice chairmanships and, if the chairmanships were not forthcoming, for seats in the more important subsidiary bodies of the House.

Ready for Work at Once.

The members have had time to get over jealousies and rivalries and so it is that, so far as committee work is concerned, the House not only is ready to proceed at once to consider legislation, but most of the members have brought themselves into a frame of mind to do what they are called upon to do without regard to their past feelings of disappointment and, perhaps, anger.

As is always the case on the opening day of congress, admission to the House and Senate galleries was by card and only those fortunate enough to know senators and representatives sufficiently well to secure admission tickets were allowed to witness the proceedings.

Galleries Are Crowded.

The galleries of both House and Senate were jammed with people. All classes of Washington society were represented in the throng of visitors. The diplomatic gallery in the House and in the Senate as well, was filled to its fullest capacity with ambassadors, ministers, attaches and the ladies of the different legations. Members of the families of the president and of the vice-president of the United States occupied seats in the executive galleries, and the cabinet and judicial and army and navy circles were well represented.

By a rule which was adopted not long ago, flowers are barred from the floor of the House excepting when they are to be used as a tribute to the memory to some deceased member.



Vice-President Sherman.

Curious Trees.

Among the curiosities of tree life is the so-called whistling tree, of Nubia. When the winds blow over this tree it gives out flute-like sounds, playing away to the windmills for hours at a time strange, weird melodies. It is the spirit of the dead singing among the branches, the natives say, but the scientific white man says that the sounds are due to a myriad of small holes which an insect bores in the spines of the branches. The weeping tree of the Canary Islands is another boreal freak. This tree in the driest weather will rain down showers from its leaves, and the natives gather up the water from the pool formed at the foot of the trunk and find it pure and fresh. The tree exudes the water from innumerable pores at the base of the leaves.

An Easy Duty.

"The late Gov. Johnson was a witty as well as a wise man," said a resident of Minneapolis.

"Once, at a dinner, a New York millionaire said about his taxes: 'I've got a little piece of property that brings me in a fair rental, and the tax-gatherers haven't spotted it yet. I don't know whether I ought to tell them or not. What would you do, Gov. Johnson?'"

"The governor's eyes twinkled.

"It's the duty of every man," he said, "to live unspotted. Still, if I were you I'd pay up."

A Question to Be Considered.

"Do you consider plagiarism permissible under any circumstances?"

"Well," answered Senator Sorghum, "it's pretty hard when you find yourself compelled to make a choice between being interesting or original."

Moral Bread of Mankind.

Affability, mildness, tenderness and a word which I fain would bring back to its original signification of virtue, I mean good nature, are of daily use; they are the bread of mankind, and staff of life.—Addison.

Peculiarly Worded.

One of the oddest signs in New York is in the window of an old house in Moore street. It reads: "Cats taught tricks if they are brought in while they are kittens."

house was present and that congress was ready to receive any communication that he "may be pleased to make." On receipt of this message from the senate, Speaker Cannon appointed a committee to join a like committee of the Senate to wait upon the president. The members of the body directed to notify Mr. Taft that the House was in session were by the appointment of the speaker, the Republican leader, Sen. E. Payne, and the Democratic leader, Champ Clark.

The first day in the House as usual brought out hundreds of legislative measures in bill form, all of which were read by their title only and referred to the proper committees. It was evident from the tone of the bills introduced that some scores of representatives were anxious to further measures which had been recommended by President Taft as being necessary to carry out proposed policies of progression. The bills ranged from those intended to correct alleged existing evils in interstate commerce to those to give increases of pensions to veterans of the civil war.

Applause Greets Speaker Cannon.

If Speaker Cannon anticipates any particular trouble with the "Insurgents" of the House at the coming session, he gave no evidence of it when he took the chair as president.



Speaker Joseph G. Cannon.

He was greeted with great applause from the galleries and from the floor of the House, many of the Democrats and insurgents joining in the demonstration, though in either case possibly the hand-clapping was given as an evidence of regard for the speaker, rather than as evidence of any over-weening affection for the speaker himself.

With the committees ready to begin work, the House will settle down to its winter's business at once. No bills will be passed immediately because all measures must be considered in committee, and the meetings of the committees will be held daily from now until the Christmas holidays and some of the more important House bodies will sit during the recess. When congress reassembles in January many of the committees will be ready to report bills, and the debates of the winter will begin.

Opening of the Senate.

Vice-President Sherman called the Senate to order at noon. Rev. Edward Everett Hale, the chaplain of the Senate, having died during the summer recess, his place as chaplain, temporarily was taken by a local clergyman who offered prayer. In the Senate the roll was called and it was found that nearly all the Senators were in their seats. The resolutions were adopted to the effect that committees be appointed to inform the House and the president that the Senate had assembled and was ready to begin the business of the session. As was the case in the House many bills were introduced for consideration during the winter by senators who, like the representatives, desire to have a hand in forwarding administration policies.

After a comparatively short session "In the open," the galleries were cleared and the Senate went into executive session behind closed doors for the purpose of considering nominations for office sent to the Upper House by President Taft.

THE DIFFERENCE.



"As there has been a change in our fortunes, Maudie, make haste and find a husband. You, Jack, don't make a fool of yourself by marrying."

TOOK THE OLD FELLOW BACK

Actor's Joking Remark a Considerable Shock to the Dignity of the Old Gentleman.

There is a Thanksgiving story about Henry E. Dixey, the comedian, that his friends at the Lambs never tire of telling.

Mr. Dixey, while visiting Philadelphia one autumn, attended a very aristocratic Thanksgiving ball in Rittenhouse square.

While supper was being served, Mr. Dixey ranged himself behind the supper table with the 12 or 15 waiters busy there. Soon a mild-mannered old gentleman with white hair approached the actor, glass in hand.

"Would you mind filling my glass with champagne, please," he said.

Mr. Dixey started, drew himself up and said, with a look of horror:

"Certainly not, sir; certainly not. You have already had more than is good for you."

A Double Delight.

"Congratulations," said young Smith to a fellow clerk. "I'm going to get married."

"Fine. Glad to hear it. But don't marry all her family."

"Oh, there's only one sister—a twin," said Smith.

"Look alike," asked the other.

"Can't tell 'em apart."

"Well, that's rather awkward, isn't it? How do you know which is which?"

"Well," confessed Smith, "up to date I haven't tried very hard."

HIS OFFER NOT APPRECIATED

Elderly Gentleman May Have Meant Well, But the Damsel Was Suspicious.

The plump waiter girl at the lunch counter, having nothing to do at the moment, was trying to reach with her fingernails a place on her back well up between the shoulders, but with her short and chubby arms she was unequal to the task. In vain she squirmed and struggled, and twisted her face. She failed to achieve the desired connection.

The elderly man on the outside of the counter, who had been fighting a piece of overdone steak, leaned forward and spoke to her in a low tone, but with intense earnestness.

"My dear young woman," he said, "pardon the freedom of a man who has grandchildren almost as old as you are, but if you will come a little closer I shall take pleasure in scratching that spot for you, as I see that you can't quite—"

"Mind your own business!" she snapped.

How seldom—O, how seldom—is a good deed or a generous impulse appreciated in this ungrateful world!

In a London Omnibus.

A London bus driver was hailed by a clerical-looking old gentleman, and on the first opportunity he remarked to the conductor: "Do you know you've got inside, Bill? It's Cardinal Mannin!"

"Go on, that ain't Cardinal Mannin!" said the conductor, "I know 'im." They argued further, and finally beat a shilling over it. When collecting fares the conductor determined to set matters right by direct inquiry. "Excuse me, sir, but are you Cardinal Mannin?" The venerable passenger looked him coldly and boldly in the eye, and answered: "What the devil has that got to do with you?"

The conductor was satisfied, but even at the sacrifice of a bob he had to get even with the passenger. Putting his head out of the door he called up to the driver: "You are right, Bill; it was 'is 'olness."

All the Same to Her.

"I must warn you, dearest," he said, "that after we are married you will very likely find me inclined to be arbitrary and dictatorial in my manner."

"No matter," she replied, cheerfully, "I won't pay the slightest attention to what you say."

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